Import of Coaches made by Latest Technology

†2069. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways have imported coaches made by latest technology, during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002;

(b) if so, the country-wise number of coaches imported and the total amount incurred by the Railways thereon; and

(c) the details of policy formulated by Government to manufacture such coaches in the country itself ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All these 24 coaches have been imported from M/s. ALSTOM-LHB, Germany. The total Free on Board (FOB) value of these coaches is Deutsche Marks 52,663,000 (Rs. 106 crore approx.). The landed cost of these coaches is Rs. 159 crore (approx.).

(c) Indian Railways have decided to manufacture such coaches of all classes at Rail Coach Factory (RCF) Kapurthala under transfer of technology agreement with M/s. ALSTOM-LHB, Germany. The new manufacturing technology will be assimilated in a planned manner to develop complete capability at RCF. The actual production of such coaches has already commenced at RCF. Subsequently, such coaches shall also be manufactured by other coach production unit of Railways viz. Integral Coach Factory, Chennai.

Rail Accidents

2070. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the Division-wise details of rail accidents during the last six months;

(b) the number of persons killed and injured in these accidents and the amount of compensation paid to their family members;

(c) the main causes of the said accidents and total loss suffered by the Railways, as a result thereof; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to prevent recurrence of such accidents?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.